

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 777

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Weatherization Day to recognize the need for reducing home energy costs, particularly for low-income families, through the use of conservation technologies, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DINGELL, and Mr. GRIJALVA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Weatherization Day to recognize the need for reducing home energy costs, particularly for low-income families, through the use of conservation technologies, and for other purposes.

Whereas Congress has long recognized the plight of low-income families and individuals in meeting their home energy needs;

Whereas low income households, particularly those with elderly persons, persons with disabilities, or small children, spend an average of more than 14 percent of their an-

nual income on energy, compared with 3.5 percent in homes that are not low income households;

Whereas the Department of Energy developed the Weatherization Assistance Program in 1976 to help reduce energy costs, while maintaining health and safety, for low-income families through increased home energy efficiency;

Whereas the weatherization program operates in all 50 States and the District of Columbia and serves low-income families in owned or rented homes;

Whereas investment in the weatherization program by the Federal Government and other sources supports more than 25,000 jobs across the country within related industries;

Whereas for every \$1 invested in the weatherization program, low-income families receive a total of \$2.78 in benefits, \$1.30 in energy-related benefits and \$1.48 in other benefits, including reductions of pollution, unemployment, and adverse health concerns;

Whereas based on current fuel costs, low-income families save an average of \$350 each year on their energy bills after their homes have been weatherized, thereby avoiding one metric ton of carbon dioxide emissions annually and lessening the need for imported oil;

Whereas by decreasing the amount of personal income spent on home energy, the weatherization program makes housing more affordable, reduces cases of homelessness, and lowers the demand for public assistance;

Whereas many States have adopted October 30 of each year as Weatherization Day to draw attention to the accomplishments of the weatherization program in low-income communities while emphasizing the importance of con-

servation technologies in increasing home energy efficiency;

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes this practice as ideal for focusing attention on the essential activities of the weatherization program; and

Whereas October 30 would be an appropriate day to establish as National Weatherization Day: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) there should be established a National  
4       Weatherization Day to recognize the need for reduc-  
5       ing home energy costs, particularly for low-income  
6       families, through the use of conservation tech-  
7       nologies; and

8               (2) the President should issue a proclamation  
9       calling on the people of the United States to observe  
10      National Weatherization Day with appropriate pro-  
11      grams and activities.

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